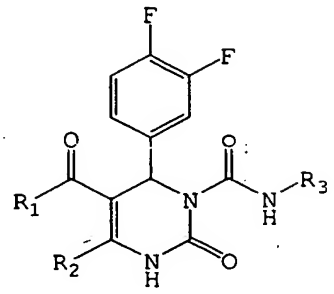
What is claimed is:

1. A compound having the structure:



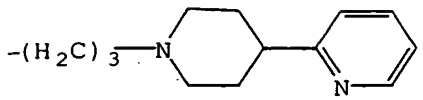
wherein R_1 is $-OCH_3$ or OH;

wherein R_2 is $-CH_2OH$, $-CH_2OCH_3$, or $-COOH$;

wherein R_1 and R_2 together form a 5-membered lactone ring;

wherein R_3 is selected from the group consisting of

$-(CH_2)_3OH$,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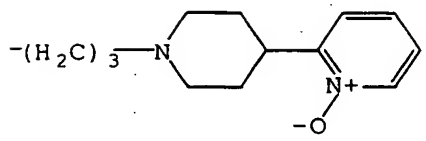
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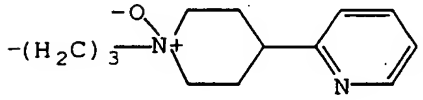
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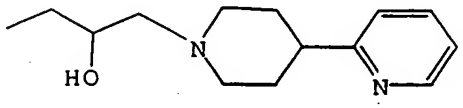
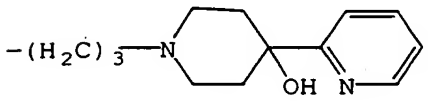

,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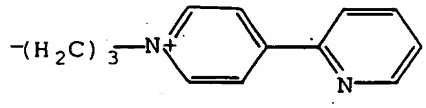
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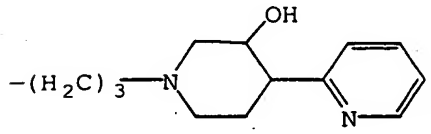
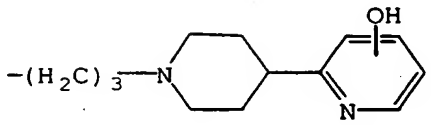
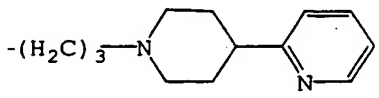

,

and


;

provided that when R_1 is OH, R_3 cannot be

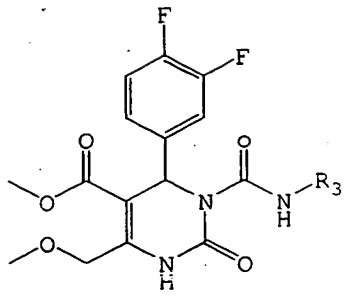

;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

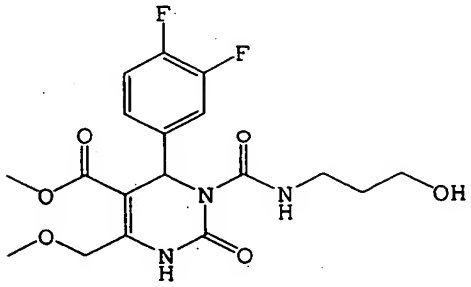
2. The (-) enantiomer of the compound of claim 1.

3. The (+) enantiomer of the compound of claim 1.

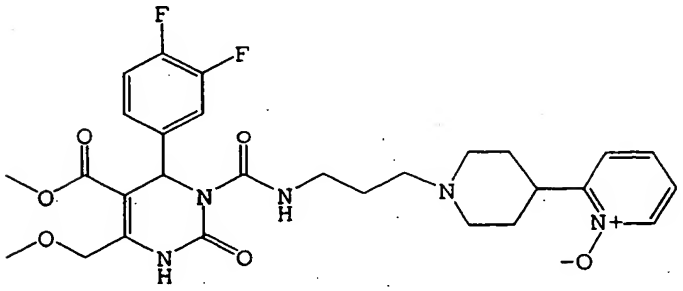
4. The compound of claim 1 having the structure:



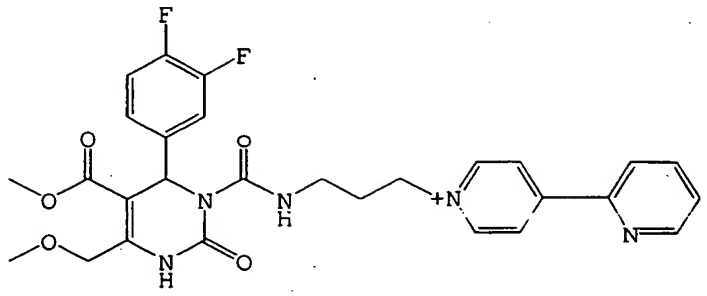
5. The compound of claim 4 having the structure:



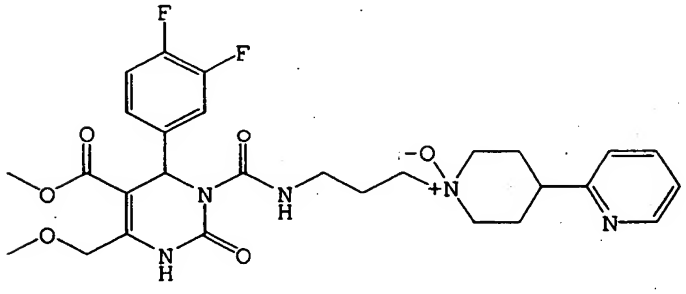
6. The compound of claim 4 having the structure:



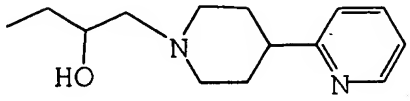
7. The compound of claim 4 having the structure:

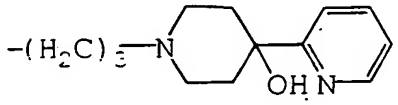


8. The compound of claim 4 having the structure:



9. The compound of claim 4 wherein R3 is selected from the group consisting of


,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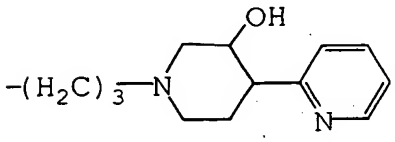
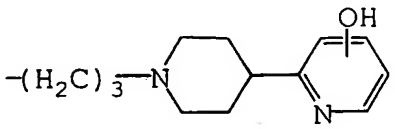
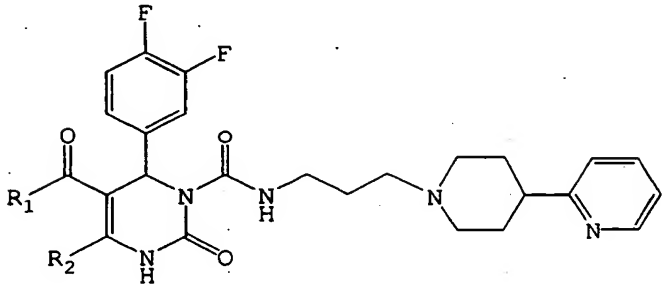
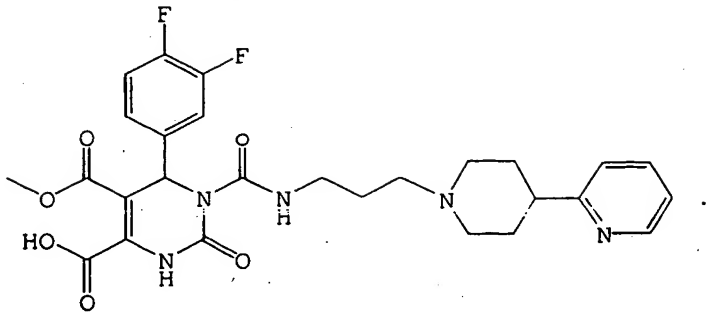

, and



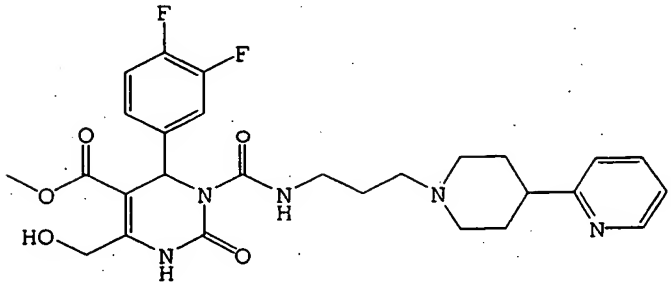
10. The compound of claim 1 having the structure:



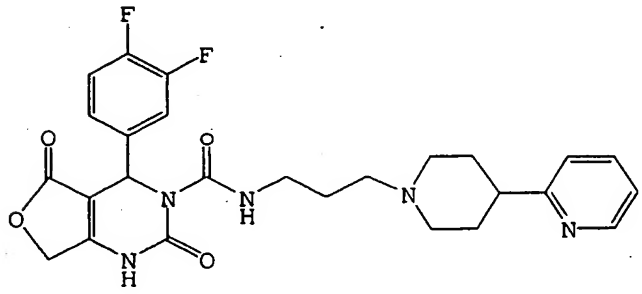
11. The compound of claim 10 having the structure:



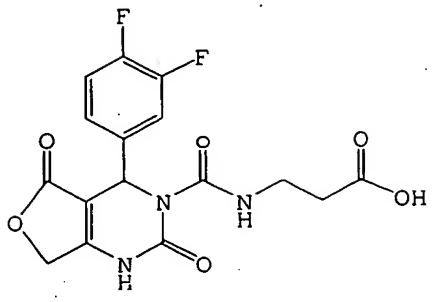
12. The compound of claim 10 having the structure:



13. The compound of claim 10 having the structure:



14. A compound having the structure:



15. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a therapeutically effective amount of the compound of claim 1, 6, 8, 9, 12, 13 or 14 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

16. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 15, wherein the therapeutically effective amount is an amount from about 0.01 mg to about 500 mg.

17. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 16, wherein the therapeutically effective amount is an amount from about 0.1 mg to about 60 mg.

18. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 17, wherein the therapeutically effective amount is an amount from about 1 mg to about 30 mg.

19. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 15, wherein the carrier is a liquid and the composition is a solution.

20. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 15, wherein the carrier is a solid and the composition is a tablet.

21. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 15, wherein the carrier is a gel and the composition is a suppository.

22. A method of treating a subject suffering from benign prostatic hyperplasia which comprises administering to the subject an amount of the compound of claim 1 or 14 effective to treat benign prostatic hyperplasia.

23. A method of treating a subject suffering from benign prostatic hyperplasia which comprises administering to the subject an amount of the compound of claim 1 or 14 in combination with a 5 alpha-reductase inhibitor effective to treat benign prostatic hyperplasia.

24. The method of claim 23, wherein the 5-alpha reductase inhibitor is finasteride.

25. A method of relaxing lower urinary tract tissue which comprises administering to the subject an amount of the compound of claim 1 effective to relax lower urinary tract tissue.

26. The method of claim 25, wherein the lower urinary tract tissue is urethral smooth muscle.

27. A method of inhibiting contraction of prostatic tissue in a subject which comprises administering an amount of a compound according to claim 1 or 14 effective to inhibit contraction of prostatic tissue.

28. A method of treating a disease which is susceptible to treatment by antagonism of the α_{1A} receptor which comprises administering to the subject an amount of the compound of claim 1 or 14 effective to treat the disease.

29. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a therapeutically effective amount of the compound of claim 1 or 14 in combination with therapeutically effective amount of finasteride and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

30. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 29, wherein the therapeutically effective amount of the compound is an amount from about 0.01 mg to about 500 mg and the therapeutically effective amount of the finasteride is about 5 mg.

31. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 29, wherein the therapeutically effective amount of the compound is an amount from about 0.1 mg to about 60 mg and the therapeutically effective amount of the finasteride is about 5 mg.

32. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 29, wherein the therapeutically effective amount of the compound is an amount from about 1 mg to about 30 mg and the therapeutically effective amount of the finasteride is about 5 mg.

33. A process for making a pharmaceutical composition which comprises combining a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of claim 1 or 14 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.